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## NORTH AFRICAN AFFAIRS

### BRIEFS

IRAQ AID TO N. YEMEN--Iraq's External Development Fund has pledged the equivalent of \$15 million to North Yemen to help finance the building of an airport in the southern port of Hodeida; the loan represents about 75 percent of the total cost of the project. The loan, announced during a recent visit to North Yemen by the Fund's director, Abdel Amir Anbari, follows an agreement by Iraq to provide the Sanaa government with an aid package of \$300 million. These moves are seen as confirmation of the view that Iraq (together with Saudi Arabia) is acting as a guarantor of the settlement between North and South Yemen reached earlier this year after serious border clashes. [Text] [Paris AL-NAHAR ARAB REPORT & MEMO in English 23 Jul 79 p 13]

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## AFGHANISTAN

### AMIN DISCUSSES CRITICISM, ISSUES DURING INTERVIEW

Kabul THE KABUL TIMES in English 7 Jul 79 pp 1,4

[Interview with Hafizullah Amin, first minister, by Colombo Guiseppe and Ettore Mo of CORRIERE DELLA SERA, date and place not given]

#### [Text]

Hafizullah Amin, Secretary and member of the Politburo of the PDPA Central Committee and First Minister granted an interview to Colombo Giuseppe and Ettore Mo from Corriere Della Sera published from Milan, Italy at 6:30 p.m. on third July 1979:

The full interview of the First Minister, with the above journalists, lasted for more than one and a half hours. Following is the text:

Question: How would you define the situation in Afghanistan? Are you involved in a full-scale civil war?

Answer: No not at all. The foreign interference cannot be taken as civil war because just yesterday we completed the land reforms program as provided in article 22 of the decree no. eight of the Revolutionary Council and the complete population census is

already underway successfully all over Afghanistan. We are sure that more than 75 percent population census will be achieved according to the program which is a high percentage. Thus how can the prevailing situation in Afghanistan can be named as civil war. Whether the interference of foreigners, sending of militiamen and assistance to vagabond bands who have lost personal interest and means of oppressive exploitation and have sucked the blood of our toiling people and are now at large out of the country, can be interpreted as civil war?

Q: It has been very often heard as if the political trend of your party is more inclined towards a socialist society, based on geographical factors rather than ideological reasons, because Afghanistan is very near to Soviet Union, do you agree with this?

A. Afghanistan is in the

neighbourhood of Soviet Union as an independent country and is renowned in history as a freedom loving state. Our people who love their freedom have always been ready for every sacrifice in defence of their independence. We have good and long standing relations with Soviet Union as a brother and equal country. As a matter of fact we have in our country a working class state under the leadership of the heroic personality and the Great Leader of the people of Afghanistan Comrade Noor Mohammad Taraki, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the PDPA and President of the RC of the DRA. Here the dictatorship of the working class rules with Afghan form. Taking into view these facts we want to construct a society, in the country, void of exploitation of man by man. Thus it depends on you that how you interpret it.

**Q:** Your enemies say that today the leadership of your party is trying to impose upon the nation a new way of life, culture and thinking. In addition they say that you want to change the very soul of the country.

**A:** I will give you authentic proofs which will repudiate all these deviating accusations. We as a party have struggled in the benefit of our toiling people for more than 14 years, the toiling people of Afghanistan know us well. Even in 1349 the monarchical regime of that time pitted the most reactionary form of struggle, through the most condemned elements of Afghanistan against us. Their aim was to isolate us from our people but whereas we were from among the people, every family of Afghanistan had a conviction that we were members of the working class party and believed in the epoch-making ideology of the working class and were known as Khalqis on the basis of these qualities. They were well aware of our ideology, struggle and our success.

Since the victory of the revolution and till now they express happiness for us, hail us throughout Afghanistan and welcome us warmly; for supporting our revolutionary measures they hold marches and rallies. But when the foreign intervention raised its head and the imperialistic circles, who recognised us, launched campaign against us limited problems have popped up and this shows

that we were not strangers to our people and they were not unfamiliarised with our struggle. We are determined to annihilate feudalism in Afghanistan, is this revolutionary measure of ours' against the Afghan nature? Is this measure something strange? Whether the conditions prevailing in Afghanistan prior to the revolution were not a shame to humanity? We will try for the betterment of the life of our people so that they are able to rule themselves and to fight oppression, and tyranny and against all those who used to oppress them. Is this surprising? Does not all this emanate from the belying propaganda of our enemy? All these measures are not only not against the Afghan nature and not strange, they are instead fully compatible with Afghan spirit. We are the product of our people. We have not created our people but our people have created us. Our party came into being on the basis of needs of the Afghan society so that it is organised, led and carries out struggle and free the people from various kinds of oppressions and tyranny.

**Q:** Your leadership has been accused that in order to achieve these drastic changes the party and the government used a very heavy hand. Rumours exist regarding the killing and torturing of a large number of people. I regret this question.

**A:** I am happy to hear this question, the things wh-

ich you have mentioned take root from the most vile enemy of Afghanistan that is Radio BBC and the fanatic religious leaders of Iran and reactionary circles of Pakistan.

I leave this for your conscience to decide whether do you not feel ashamed on the presence of such reactionary circles in Iran and Pakistan. They launched these propaganda not only to belittle us but all of you as civilised men, and just like the people of the medieval ages attach themselves to the most black reactionary thoughts and ideology. And used these thoughts for beguiling their people. You can for yourselves witness the fact about the situation in Afghanistan. You can go around Kabul and see the situation for yourself. Can such a situation full of enthusiasm exist under conditions which you have pointed out? Do you name the intrigues hatched by our enemies in the dark and eliminated in the dark as torture? The reactionaries tear into bits the children and the girls and attack schools, which are the centre of science and culture. They murder students and if they are killed for such barbarism is this torture? When such bandits infiltrate from Pakistan and Iran and carry out their murderous assaults and if we defend our people and take measures for their defence so that these mischief-mongers are eliminated is this torture and killing? We wipe out these bandits, aggressors and

criminals because they molest innocent women and children.

**Q:** Do you have political prisoners?

**A:** Yes. We have approximately 1,000 people, because this is a revolutionary government. Every revolutionary government has its enemies and friends. If the plotters are interned with documents and weapons of course they are imprisoned.

**Q:** Do you think that the Islamic religion could survive in your future society? Is the co-existence of Islam possible with the Marxist ideology?

**A:** We are for our people and serve them. We will provide the basic necessities of life to our people. That is whatever is required for a noble living and will also respect their sanctities and religious beliefs. We sincerely respect our people who do worship, whatever our people befriend we respect it because we are the servant of the people. After the victory of the great Saur Revolution for the first time ground was paved in Afghanistan for everybody, to whatever religion he may belong, to carry out his religious duties. The pious beliefs of our people can in no way block the flourishing of our society. Our toiling Muslims will always be in Afghanistan and Afghanistan belongs to them.

The journalist: Yes, I fully share your views.

**Q:** Do you think that the

way your government relies on Soviet Union could alienate the sympathy of people who would otherwise accept your socialist policy? Is it possible to call Afghanistan a nonaligned country in spite of its heavy reliance on Soviet Union?

**A:** Since the establishment of the Soviet state and till today during the 62 years our people have not seen any thing bad from Soviet Union. You cannot find even a single act or measure of the Soviet Union in the whole history of Afghanistan against the Afghan people. The Soviet Union has deep respect for the feelings of the people of Afghanistan whatever the people of Afghanistan have welcomed Soviet Union has respected it. They have helped Afghanistan in all walks of life and have never hurt the feelings of patriotism and independence of the people of Afghanistan. We would be thankful if any other country helps us like the Soviet Union. Nonalignment does not mean that we should not have friendly relations with other countries. The policy of nonalignment means that we respect the territorial integrity of other countries and not to interfere in their internal affairs, and the policy of peaceful co-existence, policy of anti-imperialism, anti-colonialism and anti-apartheid, peaceful solution to international issues, non-participation in aggressive military

blocs are other salient features of the policy of non-alignment.

Nonalignment does not mean that such and such socio-economic order is established. Selection of socio-economic order is the legal right of the peoples. We are ready to accept with honour whatever amount of assistance is provided by other countries for the flourishing of Afghanistan. Is it not the best policy of non-alignment? And on the other hand when we seek assistance from the Soviet Union, we prosper and become strong. This does not mean that we have deviated from the policy of non-alignment but it means that we have further consolidated and take further active part in it.

**Q:** What is the number of Soviet advisors in Afghanistan? We have heard that the Soviet military advisors are present in the front line and considerable number of them were killed can you cite the figure?

**A:** I do not know the exact number but I think that the number might be about 1500 to 1400 hundreds.

Journalist: Is it correct that some of them have been killed during the operation on the front?

**A:** This is absolutely false. Only one Soviet expert was killed and that too was working in the textile factory of Herat. If one can name even a single Soviet personnel to have been killed in the war operation

against the bandits it will be to our astonishment because they are not present on the front and this is absolutely false.

Q. Esteemed Noor Mohammad Taraki, President of the RC has been reported as saying that 98 percent of the people support the regime. On the other hand it is said that 75 percent of the people support the rebels. Can you throw light on the facts?

A. First Minister: Who says 75 percent people, I am sure our enemies say this.

Italian journalist: BBC says so.

First Minister: I told you earlier that the people of our country know us since more than 15 years and they knew our programs and were familiar to our ideology, because we worked among the people in the city and in the countryside and they used to support us and now too 98 percent people of the country support us with the bottom of their hearts and this is the best proof. If a portion of them have been deceived by our enemy or if a miniscule number has been used against us this does not mean that they are not with us. As I have said a number of them have been deceived and even some of them are not Afghans and attack our soil from Pakistan. The most condemned reactionary circles of Pakistan and Iran send their mercenary elements to attack our soil and homeland.

Q. Do you think whatever happened in Herat in the month of April will be repeated in other places too?

A. In Herat we cannot talk of rebellion, but 4,000 foreign aggressors were sent from Iran, however aggression depends on the foreigners and this could have been possible in Rome and London too if the reactionaries and imperialism would have interfered and sent mercenaries.

Q. Can you cite the approximate number of rebels fighting against your government?

A. I have told you that it is not a civil war but is the operation of a group of foreign bandits who kill some children, women and innocent here and there by sending their men. They sometime attack a village in one part of the country and sometime in another part. I cannot say the figure because they are bandits and come from Pakistan and Iran and carry out their attack and then escape.

Q. But I have heard that when two rebel forces attack from two sides the tribes in between join hands with the rebels, is it correct?

A. Even the most far flung and smallest villages of Afghanistan are on the side of the state and work in support of the government and security forces. But in the mountains and under the trees the foreign bandits act periodically and carry out the attacks. Someti-

mes they do so from the high mountains which are covered with trees, but they cannot create a pothole in the plains.

Q. I have recently read that some of the government garrisons have surrendered themselves to the rebels. One of the hopes of the rebels, who are so badly armed is that what occurred in Iran in February should happen in Afghanistan. Do you contemplate this possibility?

A. Our soldiers have brotherly ties with other Muslim toilers and other toiling followers of Afghanistan's religions. They are sincere to the toilers of other countries too. They are the enemy of oppressors in Afghanistan and oppressors of other countries too. Class struggle is not limited to one country but has an international nature. Therefore our soldiers will never join our enemies and the agents of exploiters. After the Saur Revolution our armed forces have become Khalqi army and in the service of the toilers and are permanent enemy of the exploiters and bloody oppressors all over the world. Our armed forces and our heroic people know that today workers' regime is consolidated in Afghanistan and relies on the unity of workers and peasants. Since power is in the hands of their own class they defend it heroically.

Q. In the last few months there has been a constant friction between Afghanistan and her neighbouring co-

untries of Iran and Pakistan, often accused of being responsible for internal troubles of Afghanistan. Has any new development been made in these relations?

A. As I have said earlier, the most reactionary circles of these two countries act against our workers' revolution. But we have profound respect to the toilers of these two countries. We have never thought of having hostility towards the peoples of Pakistan and Iran. We have good and passionate sentiments towards the toiling peoples of Pakistan and Iran. But are against the reactionary circles of these two countries who encroach on our soil. Our sincere and heartfelt feeling is that peace prevail in the region. Afghanistan is among the countries which are strongly desirous of peace. We are interested to live in peace with Pakistan and Iran. We have extended hands of friendship towards the two countries and still we want to have very friendly relations with them.

Q. I believe that at the outset the land reform was not received well by some of the villagers. Would you say why?

A. The land reforms programme was warmly welcomed by our peasants all over the country and I assure you that in no point of the country resistance took place. If some of our compatriots have been deceived by our enemies the reason has not been the land reforms

but was the baseless propaganda of our enemies.

Q. How is the present state of economy in Afghanistan?

A. Afghanistan is one of the most backward countries of the world. We cannot effectively change this situation in a period of one year. However, we are proceeding ahead towards victory.

Q. One of the main problems of your country is illiteracy. Ninety percent of people I believe. How do you intend to cope with it?

A. We have declared Jihad against illiteracy. In our first five year development plan we have worked out a programme to make one million people literate. While three months have passed since the commencement of our five year development plan, approximately one million persons have been enrolled in the literacy courses. Illiteracy is no such a question to which we have a disappointed look. But the fact is that we are optimistic about campaign against illiteracy because the plan we have formulated forges us ahead more rapidly.

Q. Your party is attacked from both right and left and I mean more from the Parcham. Is it correct that your government has demanded extradition of Karmal and his men. What was the main reason of disagreement between your party and Parcham?

A. The People's Democratic Party was the only party which triumphed and led the workers' revolution and it was vastly supported by our people. When a purge comes in a party it should not be said this wing or that wing of the party. There exists no group in the name of Parcham party. Parcham was only the name of a weekly which was published for a brief period of time but it wasn't a party. The fact that a number committed treason to the party and the revolution and were ousted from the party and fled away, does not mean that there has come a division in the party. Our party especially after the victory of the great Saur Revolution has been fully united under the direct leadership of our Great Leader Noor Mohammad Taraki, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the PDPA and President of the Revolutionary Council. Babrak and few other persons who were appointed as ambassadors were involved in a plot against the state of Afghanistan and the great Saur Revolution and we summoned them to come to the country so as to answer before our people. But they refused to come. We want to place them before the party and the people to answer to the charges brought against them and the documents obtained.

Q. In what ways did they commit crime to the revolution and your party?

A. They were involved in the conspiracies hatched against the revolution.

Q. Do you believe in free press as exists in the west?

A. In the capitalist countries press serves the bourgeois or capitalist class. You know when the great French Revolution took place the leaders of revolution did not allow those who were fighting for feudalism to carry out activity. Therefore when we toppled the feudal exploiters should we allow anybody to struggle for monarchy and feudalism. In Afghanistan there is greater freedom of press than all the capitalist countries because we have permitted all to speak, write and publish whatever they may want, of course what is in the interest of 98 percent of the society or the working class. If they want to write anything in favour

of feudalism, exploiters and criminals they are not permitted to do so. It is why we have the honour to have the best type of democracy serving 98 percent of the society comprising workers, peasants petty bourgeois, intellectuals and middle strata.

Q. I have heard that some people have attributed this statement to you as if you have said that a one-million khalqi population is sufficient for Afghanistan.

A. If anybody is consciously holding such belief he is in fact one of the greatest traitors of the world. This is not the desire and policy of our party and whoever consciously say this he is one of the most foolish persons in the world.

CSO: 4920

COMMENTS ON AFGHAN-SOVIET RELATIONS

Soviet Scholar Comments

Kabul THE KABUL TIMES in English 3 Jul 79 p 2

[Interview with Nikolai Dvoryankov, honorary member of Language and Literature Academy of Afghanistan, by APN correspondent, date and place not given]

[Text]

Prof. Nikolai Dvoryankov, Doctor of science (philology), prominent Soviet scholar and honorary member of the Language and Literature Academy of Afghanistan at the request of an APN correspondent speaks about the development of Afghan studies in the USSR, a science which is of the same age as the permanent diplomatic relations established between the Soviet Union and Democratic Republic of Afghanistan.

Soviet science about Afghanistan, which thoroughly studies the life of this ancient country, the historical destinies of its people, their rich cultural heritage and present day life, goes back to those memorable days in 1919 when V.I. Lenin and M.I. Kalin-

in, leaders of young Soviet Russia, sent a letter to Emir Amanullah Khan, head of the neighbouring state, in which they welcomed the intention of the Afghan government to establish friendly relations with the Soviet Republic which sincerely hailed the resolve of Afghan patriots to uphold their political independence and sovereignty.

From its early steps the new science was guided by the perspicacious foresight of Lenin of the effect that the establishment of friendly good-neighbourly relations between the two states and their peoples will present "broad opportunities for mutual assistance against any encroachment by foreign predatory forces on their freedom and property."

It is worth mentioning that Soviet studies of Afghanistan have never been the domain of mere theoreticians. Guided by revolutionary progressive methodology, they have always dealt with most topical events, analysing objectively and thoroughly all that is taking place and helping might and main to strengthen understanding, friendship and cooperation between the two neighbouring states.

The research of Soviet scholars has been always aimed at the implementation of the principle of proletarian internationalism, at all-round support of peoples fighting for their national and social liberation.

Representatives of the first generation of Soviet scholars specialising in Af-

ghan studies— Y.Z. Suritsa, I.M. Reisner, E.M. Riks, A.A. Polyak and others have gone down forever into the annals of friendship between the two countries. As researchers, they became tempered in the stormy events of those neighbouring peoples. Their papers, which have won a well-deserved world recognition, reflected the immortal ideas of leaders of the epoch—making ideology of the working class, specifically, their statements about Afghanistan and the history of its people, the high appreciation of their historic experience and staunchness in anti-colonialist struggle.

Today too these provisions underly Soviet studies of Afghanistan. Monographs and researches by Soviet scholars on various aspects of the neighbouring people's life, their history, culture, art and literature constitute a major contribution to world oriental studies. In books, articles, lectures and reports, published and delivered by Soviet scholars at home and

in other countries, they are consistently guided by a class approach to the history of their southern neighbour.

In their works V.A. Romadin, Y.V. Gankovsky, G. A. Pugachenkova, I.T. Kruglikova and V.K. Sarianidi added new pages to the history and archaeology of Afghanistan. By investigating the historical roots in the development of human civilisation, they pointed out the important contribution made to this process by the peoples inhabiting the territory of Afghanistan in antiquity and the middle ages. R.T. Akramovich and L.B. Teplinsky devoted their books and articles to the formation and development of Soviet—Afghan relations. Many works of Soviet scholars deal with the problems of economic and social development of Afghanistan, its peace-loving foreign policy.

Of great scientific importance are the research papers by Soviet scholars spe-

cialising in Afghan philology. Not underestimating in any way the value of research done by their foreign colleagues, it must be stressed that Soviet scholars have made accessible for the world public many priceless riches of the Afghan language and literature. M.G. Aslanov, L.N. Kiseleva, G.T. Girs and some other prominent philologists work successfully and fruitfully in this field.

After the April Revolution in 1978 and the establishment of people's power in Afghanistan, Soviet—Afghan relations embarked on a qualitatively new stage. Friendship between the two neighbouring peoples was filled with the spirit of comradeship and revolutionary solidarity. This historic event gave an effective impetus to the development of Afghan studies and set for them many new and important tasks. Today Soviet scholars continue the traditions of their forerunners in the studies of Afghanistan and use creatively all the best and progressive what they accumulated in their works in 60 years.

### Soviet 'Cooperation' Lauded

Kabul THE KABUL TIMES in English 10 Jul 79 p 2

[Editorial: "Soviet Cooperation is Friendly"]

[Text]

Hafizullah Amin, the First Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, answering

a question of the Italian journalist, in an interview granted to him at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, said: "You can not find

even a single act or measure of the Soviet Union in the whole history of Afghanistan against the Afghan people. The Sov-

ief Union has deep respect for the feelings of the people of Afghanistan, whatever the people of Afghanistan have welcomed the Soviet Union has respected it. They have helped Afghanistan in all walks of life and have never hurt the feelings of patriotism and independence of the people of Afghanistan."

The meaningful answer of our First Minister was not only an answer to the question of a journalist but it has been a broad observation to the effect that nowadays the enemies of our revolution are desperately trying to create the idea as if the Soviet Union is influencing the DRA in its related issues. The words of our First Minister have been a tooth-breaking answer to those who are feeling concern about this question. But let us ask these elements why they are too much concerned about our affairs, our relations with our friends and our destiny? Is it actually of their business? Surely, objective-minded people and societies will say no it is none of their business. But the ones who are selfish, subjective-minded and think about their own interests and not the benefit of the oppressed people of the DRA may say yes, it is related to them. Whatever they say, it is up to their own judgement. But we warn the ones who are

pocking their nose on our affairs and tell them that they are vainly wasting their times because the people of this country are conscious enough to determine their affairs.

Furthermore we would like to tell these provocators that it is not new that we have all-sided relations with our brother and friendly nation the Soviets. It is more than 60 years now that we have had good neighbourly relation and brotherly cooperation, in all walks of life with the Soviet Union as our First Minister said.

Our ties and cooperations started at a time when both, Afghanistan and the USSR, embarked upon their new life. That is to say when Afghanistan secured its independence from the British colonialism and USSR began to emerge as a socialist regime.

As the assistance and cooperation of the USSR were based on people-to-people aid therefore the people of Afghanistan have always welcomed them with all interest and respect. These assistances and cooperations were continuing during the monarchical regime and extended during the rule of Daoud. We had advisers and experts from the Soviet Union during those times also. But no one was asking about their number and their affairs at that time because they

felt, though the Afghans were helped by the Soviet Union, that their destiny was at the hand of the lackeys of imperialists and the reactionary circles and the feudal lords. They would have thought that the people of this land were under the heels of the despotism and exploiters and that condition would continue.

But these subjective-minded imperialists, these reactionaries and these selfish elements were not aware that the assistance and cooperation of our Soviet brothers were to help us construct the most infrastructural phases of the life of Afghans. The assistances of our Soviet friends, which were of people-to-people nature, and without any string have not only been the grave digger of the monarchical and autocratic regime but the imperialists and exploiters as well. That is why they are awakened now and trying to revenge what happened in the past. But they should know that it is too late now. Because now every thing is at the hand of the people of this country. It is the people of this country who decide about our internal and international affairs. Thus the will and power of the people is unbreakable and therefore the ominous objectives of imperialists would not be achieved.

# LAND REFORMS PROGRAM 'COMPLETED AHEAD OF DEADLINE'

## Minister Makes Announcement

Kabul THE KABUL TIMES in English 2 Jul 79 p 2

[Editorial: "Successful Completion of Land Reforms"]

[Text]

Successful completion of the Democratic Land Reforms in the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan has been announced by the Minister of Agriculture and Land Reforms in the meeting of the Council of Ministers yesterday.

The democratic land reforms, on the basis of Article 22 of the chain-breaking Decree No. Eight of the Revolutionary Council of the DRA, was started on Jadi 11 of the Afghan year 1357, that is January first 1979.

On the basis of estimation of the related authorities the process of the land reforms should have been completed within one year as it was announced at the start of the land reform programme. But, as we see it is completed before the time set for this purpose.

This once again reveals a revolutionary move of or-

der and the righteousness of our lofty khalqi regime, the devotion and hard-working of the personal concerned, scientifically planned measures to this end and the sincere cooperation of our noble people, the peasants, agricultural labourers and others. This reveals the good-will of our party, PDPA, the vanguard of the working class, and the noble appreciation of this great task by our people. It shows that despite the treacherous rockthrowing of the enemies of our people and people's regime, the people of this country are fully conscious of their cause and benefits.

The successful implementation of the democratic land reforms in the DRA, meanwhile, killed the feudal lords and put an end to the feudal relations in view of land and agricultural affairs. Upon suc-

cessful implementation of the great task the feudalism in the DRA has been doomed to earth for ever, like that of the rule of monarchal regime here.

Not only the feudalism has been wiped out but its other allies like those of treacherous Ikhwanis, these Muslim looking farangis, has been abolished too in the sacred land of the heroic Afghans. The Ikhwanis, these treacherous enemies of mankind, cannot take refuge to Afghanistan and reside within DRA and suck the bloods of our poor peasants and other toilers because their allies the feudals have been abolished from this land.

Therefore the Ikhwanis, aristocrats, feudal lords etc. have to live outside our country in the arms of their masters, the imperialism and the international black reaction

and the reactionary circles of Pakistan and the reactionary fanatic leaders of Iran. In effect, most of them have already taken refuge to the aforementioned elements outside of the heroic land of the DRA.

The successful completion of the democratic land reforms in the DRA shows the righteousness and triumph of our progressive ideology over the rotten bourgeois ideology. It reveals the success of the epoch-making ideology of the working class over the imperialistic encroachment of the enemies of mankind around the world.

As the report on the land reforms says, up to June 30th, 1979 more than three million and one hundred and ninety three thou-

sands jeribs of land have been distributed to the landless peasants, and petty land holders. Furthermore, from amongst the above mentioned land, areas have been selected for the state farms, municipalities and other state organisations. Of course, the remaining peasants and the agricultural labourers will soon be provided with proper land in the related provinces of the DRA.

At any rate, the successful implementation of the democratic land reforms, which has been declared with the lofty decrees of our great leader Noor Mohammad Taraki, General Secretary of the PDPA CC and President of the RC, on three different occasions within this six

months, is a great triumph of just over unjust, a significant success of right against trickery and deceit, it is a success of exploited against the exploiters and it is a great victory of the progressive ideology against the conservative capitalism and bourgeois ideology and it is a great failure of imperialism. Last but not least, the successful implementation of the democratic land reforms in the DRA pave the way for further success of our Khalqi regime in the future time. It will certainly realise our objective toward establishment of a society void of exploitation of man by man and secure us a progressive blossoming life. Ahead with further success of our Khalqi regime.

### Criterion of Success

Kabul THE KABUL TIMES in English 3 Jul 79 p 2

[Editorial: "Our Deeds Are Best Criterion"]

[Text]

The people of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan are constantly making efforts to bring positive changes in their economic, social and political life. As it is clear they are bringing changes with all successes required. The good example of these successes has been the completion of the Democratic land reforms the news of which published in yesterday's issue of this paper. Another

important project of our Khalqi regime is the first complete census which is under way and even in some provinces it is already completed.

Projects other than land reforms and census have already been completed one by one which were, of course, the abolition of usury and mortgaging and organisation of a new social order which was regulated as a result of the is-

suance of the Decree No. Seven of the Revolutionary Council of the DRA.

Constant and continual efforts are undertaken in the way of popularisation of education through literacy courses and by establishment of new schools. Steps are taken for improvement of education quantitatively and qualitatively.

Our educational institutes

are trying hard to organise the curricula in such a manner as to be more practical rather than mere theoretical like that in the past.

In view of solution of the national issues, it is sure that the DRA is a good example in the modern time. Despite the fact that only fourteen months have passed since the establishment of our Khalqi-regime we have taken such wide steps towards solution of the national issues that were totally unprecedented. Now all facilities have been provided to furnish our people with education in their own languages.

Road building, housing construction, construction of dams and several other establishments are earnestly continuing throughout the country.

All these activities will naturally inspire our enemies, the enemies of the progress and human wellbeing. That is why they are carrying out terroristic acts

here and there within our country and outside the DRA.

One accuses us of being against religion and Islam, the other says that our revolution is in difficulty, an other say that we are helped by such and such countries etc. Are all these accusations actually true in connection with our lofty regime and the noble people? Naturally no. Because, the problems of our enemies, that is the imperialists, black reaction, fanatics and reactionary circles of Iran are by no means related to religion and to our difficulties in view of our domestic affairs etc. But their main aim is hostility toward our progressive regime, towards our ideology that is the epoch-making ideology of the working class, toward our khalqi order in which the power is at the hand of the people of this country. They are carrying out their enmity as they have lost their interests and benefits in our land. They

are provoking treacherous elements here and there to create tensions against us as they are no more able to exploit our people and land.

But we are forging ahead with our plans and projects and never care about these barkings. We let the enemies bark as the caravan of our progress passes on. We fulfill our humanitarian objectives towards all peoples of the world in the spirit of peace and friendship for the purpose of human wellbeing and thus whatever our enemies do would naturally be foiled as our deeds are the best criterion for our people and the progressive and peace-loving peoples of the world to judge us. It is, in effect, on the basis of this criterion that all progressive minded and noble people of DRA have great trust in their great leader Noor Mohammad Taraki and other heroes of our revolution and their khalqi regime.

**MORE CONTRIBUTIONS BY WORLD BANK FOR DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS**

**Kabul** THE KABUL TIMES in English 5 Jul 79 p 1

[Text]

KABUL, July 5, (Bakhtar).—Abdul Karim Misaq, minister of finance met, at his office at 11 a.m. yesterday, head of World Bank delegation, Ashworth. The delegation is here to study the loans of Agriculture Development Bank and Herat Livestock Company, either financed or to be financed through World Bank.

Ashworth provided necessary explanations on performance of the delegation as regards reviewing the previous credits of the Bank to the organisation concerned and the talks the delegation held with Agriculture Development Bank on fourth credit of the World Bank.

He submitted his proposals on expansion of credit services to agriculture co-operatives and improving the condition for realisation of loans extended by the Agriculture Bank and creation of an active and effective centre for training the Afghan employees and personnel for carrying out the planned programmes in

accordance with the first five year plan of DRA.

He also recalled with appreciation the cooperation of interested organisations with the World Bank delegation and described as effective and useful such cooperation for development of related projects.

In reply the Minister of Finance recalled with happiness the contribution of the World Bank in developmental projects of DRA, including the agriculture projects to which the state has given priority, and described the views of the Bank as useful which will lead to improving the planned activities. He asked the head of World Bank delegation to include the views and recommendations in a detailed report and sent them officially to the interested organisations.

The meeting which lasted until 12:30 p.m. was also attended by resident representative of World Bank to Kabul and President of Agriculture Development Bank.

ACCORDS SIGNED WITH USSR

On Planning Affairs

Kabul THE KABUL TIMES in English 27 Jun 79 p 1

[Text]

KABUL, June 27, (Bakhtar).— The agreement pertaining to mutual cooperation between the Ministry of Planning Affairs of DRA and the State Committee of Planning Affairs of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics was signed, in Moscow last Monday.

The Information Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs reported that

the agreement was signed for Democratic Republic of Afghanistan by Dr. Shah Wali, deputy minister and minister of public health and for the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics by N. K. Baibakov, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers and Chairman of the State Committee for Planning Affairs of Soviet Union.

Wheat Purchase

Kabul THE KABUL TIMES in English 27 Jun 79 p 4

[Text]

KABUL, June 27, (Bakhtar).—The agreement for purchase of 25,000 tons wheat from Soviet Union was signed in Kabul last Monday June 25.

The agreement was signed for Afghanistan by Nasrullah Ghafari, President of Food Procurement

and State Civil Servants and Employees Cooperative Department and for Soviet Union by Pawal Manderiken, representative of Vestog-Intorg.

Under the agreement, 25,000 tons wheat will be delivered on the Afghan side as of 1 July, 1979.

## Construction of Compressor

Kabul THE KABUL TIMES in English 27 Jun 79 p 4

[Text]

KABUL, June 27. (Bakhtar).— The agreement pertaining to the construction of the compressor project of Khwaja Gogerdak at the cost of 11,815,800 rubles and the agreement on extension of the project of 53 km, long gas pipe line from Afghanistan to Soviet Union which is being financed fifty percent by the Soviet Union under its technical and economic cooperation at the cost of 7,264,903 rubles were signed at the National Oil Company yesterday between two countries.

The agreements were sig-

ned in the presence of Eng. Abdul Kafi Rasuli, Deputy minister of mines by Dip. Eng. Gulnawaz, president of the National Oil Company and Anatoli Chogonov, economic counsellor of the Soviet Embassy in Kabul.

On the basis of these agreements the construction work of these two projects which takes place on turn key basis will be completed within 18 months from the signing of the agreement and will be delivered to the Ministry of Mines and Industries.

## Forecast Station Assistance

Kabul THE KABUL TIMES in English 9 Jul 79 p 4

[Text]

KABUL, July 9. (Bakhtar).— A Technical cooperation agreement between the Ministry of Transport and the United Export and Import Company (Techno—Stroi Export) of Soviet Union was signed in Kabul yesterday.

The agreement was signed in the presence of Noor Mohammad Dalili, deputy minister of transport by Dr. Noor Mohammad Harman, director general of Forecast and Dr. Anatoli Chogov, economic consul of the Soviet Embassy in Kabul.

On the basis of this agreement the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics will provide technical cooperation to the forecast station of the Civil Aviation and radio sound of Kabul and other similar stations which have been established with the help of Soviet Union and also setting up of the centre for study of atmospheric pollution, observation and hydrological affairs and agricultural forecast in various parts of Afghanistan in the form of grant-in-aid.

## Bakery Equipment Delivery

Kabul THE KABUL TIMES in English 10 Jul 79 p 2

[Text]

KABUL, July 9. (Bakhtar).—The agreement for the delivery of concerned equipment for Mazar-i-Sharif Bakery, having a capacity of producing 25 tons bread in 24 hours, was signed at the Food Procurement department yesterday.

The agreement was signed by Nasrullah Ghafari, President of the Food Procurement and the Government Employees Cooperatives and Dr. Anatoli Chugunov economic consul of the Soviet Embassy in Kabul.

On the basis of this agree-

ment in the Mazar complex, which consists of silos, flour mills and bakeries, the equipment for the bakery will be delivered to the Afghan side and the factory will begin operation after three years from the date of delivery of the equipment.

A source of the Food Procurement and Civil Servants Cooperative said that at the above bakery will cost afs. 170 million of which 84 million will come from the state budget and the rest from the Soviet Union credit.

CSO: 4920

CUBAN DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER IN KABUL

Kabul THE KABUL TIMES in English 9 Jul 79 pp 1,4

[Text]

KABUL, July 9, (Bakhtar).— Dr. Shah Wali, deputy first minister and minister of public health received Flavco Baravo, deputy first minister of the Republic of Cuba for a courtesy call at the Palace of the First Ministry at one p.m. yesterday and discussed with him matters of interest.

During this meeting present were also Dr. Ghulam Mohammad Sahebi, first deputy minister of education and Dr. Pelegrin Torras, deputy minister of foreign affairs of Cuba.

Flavco Baravo, deputy first minister of the Republic of Cuba arrived in Kabul at the head of a delegation at 7:30 a.m. yesterday.

The visit of His Excellency Flavco Baravo has taken place in connection with the sixth conference of the heads of state and government of the nonaligned countries which is

likely to take place during the first week of September this year in Havana, and during his stay in Kabul he will exchange views with the concerned sources of the DRA on issues related to the above conference.

At Kabul International Airport Dr. Shah Wali, deputy first minister and minister of public health, Dr. Abdurrashid Jalili, minister of education, Dr. Assadullah Amin, second deputy foreign minister for political affairs, Dr. Ghulam Mohammad Sahebi, first deputy education minister and host of the delegation, Mohammad Wali Mandozai, chief of the protocol of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, charge D'Affairs of the Cuban Embassy in Kabul welcomed the delegation of the Republic of Cuba.

Dr. Pelegrin Torras, deputy minister for foreign affairs of the Republic of Cuba also accompanies the Deputy First Minister of Cuba in this visit.

# OPHTHALMOLOGICAL HOSPITAL OPENS IN HERAT

Kabul THE KABUL TIMES in English 2 Jul 79 p 2]

[Text]

HERAT, July 2. (Bakhtar).—The eye hospital in Herat city was opened by Dr. Mahmoud, First deputy minister of public health, in a grand function yesterday.

The function held at 4 p.m. was opened with national anthem. Afterwards, the First Deputy Minister of Public Health spoke on the gains of Great Saur Revolution and projected plans of our Khalq state in the public health sector. He said, our Khalq state, under the sagacious directives of able teacher of the people of Afghanistan, Noor Mohammad Taraki, General Secretary of the Central Committee of PDPA and President of the Revolutionary Council, has undertaken expansive and comprehensive plans for building and modernisation of the co-

untry and ensuring the health of our dear compatriots and today we are witness to opening of one such organisations.

Prior to the speech of the First Deputy Minister of Public Health, Eng. Abdul Hai Yateem, secretary of the provincial committee and Governor of Herat in a speech congratulated the opening of the eye hospital in Herat city for the people of Herat who had been waiting for years for such a centre for treatment of eye diseases.

Afterwards, Dr. Hassan Sherzai, president of NOOR Eye Institute speaking on the technical aspects of the eye hospital in Herat said it has forty beds and the building is constructed by Helmand Valley Construction Unit at the cost of more than fifteen million afghanis,

covering 10,000 square metres.

The International Assistance Mission (IAM) has provided more than Afs 24,640,000 worth equipment for the hospital.

Dr. Sherzai added that the hospital has operation theatres, clinic for routine checking, laboratory and optic shop and other essentials. The hospital provides clinical ophthalmological treatment three days a week and performs operations twice a week. And on Thursdays and Fridays it tends to emergency cases.

The opening ceremony was attended by members of provincial and City Committee, heads of departments, physicians and technical personnel of the hospital and health institutes of Herat and a great number of intellectuals.

CSO: 4920

# CONSTRUCTION OF FILM, SOUND STUDIOS

Kabul THE KABUL TIMES in English 4 Jul 79 p 3

[Text]

With the construction of two new film and sound recording studios the Afghan Film will be able to produce documentary and feature black and white and colour films and also dub imported films.

Dr. Mustafa Rasuli, President of the Afghan Film talking to a reporter of the Kabul Times said:

Two new film and sound recording studios will be built over 500 square metres area to southeast of Kabul city. The studios will be equipped with modern facilities, laboratories for developing black and white and colour films, a cinema, large dining room for the personnel of the studios and other necessities.

The studios are being financed from the credit signed in 1975 between the Soviet Union and Afghanistan. The construction work on the studios will begin shortly. (The agreement on the project was signed last month by Dr. Mustafa Rasuli, president of Afghan

Film and Boris Titov, Counsellor for Economic Affairs of the Soviet Embassy in Kabul and the related documents were exchanged).

Replying to another question the President of the Afghan Film said:

The films imported by the Afghan Film after the victory of great Saur Revolution have all been educational and with progressive spirit, mostly from the Eastern European countries, Soviet Union as well as a number of Pashtu and Indian films. In importing these films the Afghan Film has taken into consideration its educational aspect rather than economic profits.

He added, the Afghan Film has prepared some 140 films depicting the celebrations and ceremonies of distribution of land in the centre and provinces, the marches etc, which have been watched by some seven million people in the

centre and provinces of the country. Similarly, the Afghan Film has put at the disposal of the audio-visual unit of Radio-Television the copies of a number of its films.

Dr. Rasuli noted that at present the Afghan Film is busy making a film entitled, 'The Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, shooting of which began in the month of Saur this year and is scheduled to be completed by Mizan this year. The hour-long film is being produced in colour. The film includes the glorious ceremonies of the first anniversary of the great Saur Revolution, speeches and interviews of the great leader of the people of Afghanistan, Noor Mohammad Taraki, General Secretary of the Central Committee of PDPA and President of the Revolutionary Council of DRA, as well as speeches and interviews of Hafizullah Amin, First Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs. The film also

depicts the natural scenarios of Afghanistan, local dances, folk music of different provinces and the celebrations marking the distribution of land and other national events.

The personnel of the Afghan Film is also busy making another film called 'Da Saur Enqlab'. The film is being directed by Daoud Farani, portraying the history of Great Saur Revolution. Sixty per cent of the film has been completed and will soon be shown in local cinemas.

Talking about the developmental plans of the Afghan Film, during the first five year plan, Dr. Rasuli said, in the first three years of the five year plan of DRA, the Afghan Film will produce a newsreel every 15 day and at least four documentary films and two or three feature films a year.

Taking into view the personnel and essential equipment, the Afghan Film

will also make efforts to produce TV films.

The activities of audio-visual groups will be increased many folds in view of personnel and equipment and the above films can be changed into 16 mm for use in TV.

The Afghan Film plans to produce films, in the course of five year plan, first in Pashtu and Dari languages and then in the languages of different nationalities of the country. The films will also be dubbed in Pashtu and Dari languages and other local languages.

Dr. Rasuli further noted that during the five year plan period 53 people will be sent for higher studies in different fields of film industry and another 64 personnel of the Afghan Film will be provided short-term courses abroad in the same fields.

## ALGERIA

### BRIEFS

CONTRACTS WITH GERMAN, DUTCH FIRMS--Algeria has awarded a contract worth about \$150 million to a joint venture between Heilmann and Littman of West Germany and Bos Kalis Westminster Construction BV of The Netherlands for a factory in Ain Smara, 300 kms east of Algiers. The factory will be used by Ingersoll Rand for the production of air compressors. The contract includes construction of a training centre and a village to house workers. Work is due for completion within two and a half years. Awarded by the state-run Sonacome organisation, the order follows one to Stevin Construction BV of the Netherlands for construction of a dam; West German contractors are taking part in the project. [Text] [Paris AL-NAHAR ARAB REPORT & MEMO in English 16 Jul 79 p 13]

CS0: 4420

FOREIGN TRADE STATISTICS FOR 1978 REPORTED

Cairo AL-MUSAWWAR in Arabic 20 Jul 79 p 72

[Excerpts] During the year ending on 31 December 1978, the total revenues of Egypt's foreign trade sector were 1,014 million Egyptian pounds, of which 632 million was assigned to the production sector and 382 million to the domestic consumption sector.

The total exports of the foreign trade sector were 146 million pounds, of which 92 million was to free-currency countries and 54 million to countries with which Egypt has trade agreements. The companies received 17 million pounds in commissions from agencies.

The branches and offices of the foreign trade companies abroad did 51.5 million pounds' worth of business, from which they realized profits of 1.2 million pounds.

The foreign trade sector employed 22,225 workers, whose wages amounted to 15.8 million pounds. They brought about dividends of 32.5 million pounds, an increase of 1.2 million over the preceding year. From this activity, the government received 20.8 million pounds in revenues, the Nasir Social Bank received 0.8 million, and 4.8 million was retained for reserves.

CSO: 4802

# NEW KURDISH LEADER PLANS INSURRECTION

Paris AL-NAHAR ARAB REPORT & MEMO in English 23 Jul 79 pp 3,4

[Text] Mazoud Barzanik son of the late Kurdish nationalist Mustafa Barzani, returned to the mountains of northeastern Iraq this month at the head of several hundred guerrillas and pledged to intensify fighting against the Iraqi armed forces. Western correspondents who accompanied the Kurds on their trek across the border from Iran reported that Mr Barzani, newly elected leader of the Kurdistan Democratic Party, met up with rival Kurdish leaders who have been fighting in the area since the collapse of the revolt led by his father in 1975.

Reports from Iran meanwhile said that the border town of Marivan was under the control of Kurdish guerrilla forces who defeated Islamic revolutionary guards in an eight-hour battle which left at least 22 dead. Iranian officials said that troops were airlifted to the provincial capital, Sanandaj (see map in AN-NAHAR ARAB REPORT & MEMO, March 12) but Kurdish sources said the guerrillas would resist any attempt to send the forces to Marivan.

The clashes followed persistent unrest in the Iranian province of Kordestan since the fall of the Shah in February. The revolution and the near disintegration of the Iranian army, which had been policing the border with Iraq, persuaded the Kurds to voice demands for autonomy. The latest incidents however were reported to have stemmed from the allegations of local farmers that Islamic revolutionary authorities joined landlords in their attempt to seize back lands distributed to the Kurds under the Shah's agrarian reform programme in 1963.

The threat to the governments of both Iran and Iraq of a major Kurdish uprising on both sides of the frontier is probably behind the decision of Iran, announced by Foreign Minister Ibrahim Yazdi, to end propaganda attacks on the Baghdad government. Kurdish leaders have stepped up their demands for autonomy since the spring, when Iranian forces began pushing westwards towards the Iraqi frontier to recapture towns under the control of Kurdish guerrillas. The minority's religious and political chiefs had

previously toned down their remarks, but several weeks ago they started issuing warnings that there might be a bloodbath.

Iran's Interior Minister Hashem Sebaghian asserted last week however that the situation was far more tense in the southern province of Khuzestan, where ethnic Arab groups have clashed with Iranian forces. A hitherto unknown group calling itself Black Wednesday claimed responsibility for an explosion this month which badly damaged pipelines serving the giant Abadan oil refinery in the province. The group was believed to have taken its name from Wednesday May 30, when an estimated 200 people died in clashes with Islamic revolutionary guards.

Mr Barzani, elected head of the KDP at a secret conclave in Iran, told Western correspondents that the Kurds intended to resume guerrilla attacks in small groups so as to tie down "eight Iraqi divisions." The guerrillas' aim, he said, was "to gain real autonomy for the Kurdish people within a democratic and prosperous Iraq." He claimed that the Baghdad government had "deported all the population from the border regions, forcing them to live under military guard in special camps in the lowlands, to deprive us of their support." The accompanying journalists reported that border villages were deserted and that many of the buildings within them had been blown up.

CSO: 4820

## IRAN CONTINUES ITS ANTI-ARAB POSTURES

Baghdad BAGHDAD OBSERVER WEEKLY SUPPLEMENT in English 10 Jul 79 p 3

[Text] After more than four years of silence, the Iranian mass media restarted its malicious campaign attacking Iraq, its Leadership and Party.

The vindictive nature of the current attacks reminds one of the Shah era, especially the period between 1969 to 1975 when the Shah's regime demonstrated its most repugnant enmity towards Iraq--in the political, military and other fields.

What requires careful scrutiny now is: Why should the Iranian Revolution so speedily follow the Shah's footsteps against Iraq and the Arab Gulf after it claimed that it was opposed to the policies pursued by the Shah's regime and declared itself a people's national and Islamic revolution opposed to imperialism and Zionism and having a pro-Palestinian and Arab inclination?

What is even more perplexing is that even before stabilizing the situation inside Iran itself, the new Iranian authorities chose to launch a venomous attack against the nearest Arab-Islamic country whose importance, significance and vital role in the Palestinian cause needs no elaboration.

If one were to go back some six years, one would find that the biggest banner hoisted and paraded by the then Iranian leadership, radio and press was that of religion. In fact some of the agents used by the Teheran regime against Iraq at the time were considered religious men.

Now, it would appear, history is repeating itself. Although the leadership in Iran has changed, the game of using religion to foment enmity has not changed.

However, what is surprising is that the new Iranian leadership has learnt nothing from the Shah's dismal failure in intervening in Iraq's domestic affairs. After years of maneuvering with sectarian prejudices, the Shah sought rapprochement with Iraq. Iraq, however, true to its principles of desiring and maintaining normal relations between the two neighbourly countries for the benefit of both peoples, concluded the Algiers Agreement in 1975.

When the Iranian Revolution triumphed, the Arab hailed it. Iran under the Shah was considered a major threat to the Arab nation for two reasons:

First, because it kept on engaging an important Arab state in the eastern flank confronting the Zionist entity, namely, Iraq;

Second, Iran, during that period, played the role of a "policeman" in the Arab Gulf and occupied three strategic Arab islands therein, Greater Tumb, Lesser Tumb and Abu Musa.

Now Iran, under its new leadership, has to prove that its pronouncements concerning support to the Palestinians and Arabs and its adherence to non-alignment are not mere words. The only concrete way of showing that they are not mere empty words devoid of principles, is by acting differently from the inimical policies pursued by the Shah's regime, particularly concerning the two above-mentioned factors.

The new regime in Iran has made loud declarations about supporting the cause of the Palestinian people. Such declarations may sound revolutionary, but can only be considered revolutionary if they are accompanied by concrete action.

The liberation of Palestine, it goes without saying, cannot be realised by simply opening a PLO bureau in Teheran, while at the same time applying imperialist plots in the Arab Gulf.

One is likely to assume that the recent change in the Iraqi-Iranian relations may have been prompted by the deteriorating situation in Arabistan, where the Iranian authorities opened fire on the indigenous Arab people simply because they asked to express and use their national culture and language. The stand of Iraq to support the Arabs in Arabistan is quite natural as it stems from its principles regarding minorities--principles which have been scrupulously applied in Iraq, namely, the autonomous rule. Moreover, Iraq regards this as the only durable framework to safeguard the fundamental rights of the minorities. Therefore, Iraq's principal stand should not have "surprised" the new rulers in Iran regarding the rights of the Arabs in Arabistan.

Others may attribute the new turn in Iraqi-Iranian relations to reflecting a "subjective" complex suffered by the new Iranian leaders since the time of their underground activities against the Shah's regime when they were offered asylum in Iraq.

Some may consider this subjective attitude from possible curb on their activities while enjoying asylum in Iraq following the signing of the Algiers Agreement. However, Iraq assisted the Iranian opposition forces with all possible means and opened its land to them to engage in their activities, at a time when such acts would have jeopardised the Algiers Agreement signed between Iraq and Iran. This fact is known to new Iranian leaders.

Iraq has consistently reiterated its desire to pursue normal relations with Iran, since such relations would have positive consequences for the two Islamic countries which share borders of hundreds of kilometres in length.

This desire and stand was stated clearly in the officials memorandum sent by Iraq to the Iranian Revolution.

In the meantime Iraq advises the Iranian side to rethink before persisting with such diabolical campaigns...as it is challenging a strong state which has big faith in its people and potentials.

Iraq would also like to remind Iran that over thousands of years Persia was twice liberated from the clutches of cruel unjust and tyrannical emperors...the first by Arab Moslem leaders and armies when the tyrant Kisrah Ano-Shirwan; and the second is the recent Iranian revolution which, it goes without saying, would not have managed to sieze power without employing the banner of Islam--the religion which sprang in the Arab land and the Arab nation had the honour of adopting it and spreading it throughout the world.

CSO: 4820

PROJECT STATUS, MERGER PLANS ANNOUNCED BY MINISTER

Baghdad BAGHDAD OBSERVER in English 7, 9 Jul 79

[7 Jul 79 p 2]

[Text] Mr Taha Yassin Ramadhan, RCC Member and Minister of Housing and Reconstruction said "The Baghdad Political Declaration gave a new momentum to our steady steps on the path of coordination and integration along with enhancing our measures to realize a coherent formula between the two countries Iraq and Syria in the field of housing and reconstruction."

The Minister went on saying "A remarkable progress had been witnessed in this domain, following the signing of the National Joint Action Charter between the two brotherly countries Iraq and Syria".

Mr. Ramadhan also affirmed that the Baghdad Political Declaration had added new aspects to the recent optimism prevailing upon our Nation, and it urges us to enhance and consolidate systems of the two sides regarding the construction and the housing sector which is regarded as one of the fundamental guarantees of realizing the aspired coherence between the state quarters of both sides.

He added that Mr Saddam RCC Vice-Chairman, during his meeting with the journalists following the signing of the Political Declaration, has absolutely and precisely confirmed that the movement at the state quarters and institutions is going forward and that it will create in ourselves the solid wills to overcome any obstacles facing our unitary march.

"The few coming months will witness a new stage of the serious and sincere work between the two sides through holding a joint meeting to complete their discussions to endorse the final unified formula, after success of the competent committees in preparing comparative studies concerning the two ministries systems" he stressed.

On the other hand, the Minister announced that the allocations of the ministry has risen to ID. 500 million this year.

"This great sum absolutely portrays the considerable attention given to the housing and reconstruction sector by the Leadership of the Party and the Revolution" he remarked.

"This sum is distributed among the Ministry's quarters as follows:

1--ID. 66.740.000 for the State Organisation of Housing.

2--ID. 206.177.000 for the State Organisation of Roads and Bridges.

3--ID. 109.436.000 for the State Organisation of Buildings.

4--ID. 38.155.000 for the State Company for Water and Sewage Contracts Projects.

5--ID. 1.500.000 for the National Centre of Constructional Laboratories.

Furthermore, the Minister stated that the second part of this year will witness the accomplishment of so many residential and different service projects costing ID. 213.991.000 of which 3.090 housing units distributed among 20 schemes (986) units of which were allocated for the workers of the factories of the pre-fabricated building in Baghdad, Nineveh, Basrah, Ta'mim and Sulaimaniyah governorates and a number of flats for citizens housing both in Karkh and Rusafa areas.

As for bridges and roads projects, the Minister announced that 52 new roads costing ID. 93.246.000 with a length of 352 KM due to be accomplished by the State Organisation of Roads and bridges this year. Among these projects are the Road of Zakhu-Kanymals, Rezanok-Darkala Junction, Tus-Zarkly, al-Hussainiyah-Shumm and the Road of Sinkr-mout.

"The importance of the above projects," he added, "Stems from their positive effects on tourism movement inside the country. Meanwhile, another important bridge schemes are to be executed by the said Organisation, during this year too, such as al-Muthanna Bin Harith, El-Shaylbany and the 3rd Mosul bridge."

Reviewing projects which will be shortly accomplished by the State Organisation of Buildings Mr. Ramadhan said that projects of ID. 45.414.000 cost including the Building of the National Leadership of ABSP and al-Mansour Hotel (Milia) whose cost reached nine million and a half Iraqi dinars.

Whereas, the State Company for Water and Sewage Contracts' projects are to be finished during the same period. Nine schemes costing ID. 19.631.000 for securing drinking water and sewage services in Mosul, Aein-Tamir, Khidher, al-Dar'raiy, Magra al-Shtayet and water project of the collective units will be constructed.

In conclusion, Mr. Ramadhan confirmed that the few forthcoming months will witness comprehensive and considerable efforts for the execution of so many residential buildings, highways, modern airports and service projects and the executive quarters are provided with all the required prerequisites in a way to cope with the projects and development programmes recently set up throughout the country.

[Text] Mr. Taha Yassin Ramadhan, RCC Member and Minister of Housing and Reconstruction stated that the development and prosperity of the socialist construction in the country is deeply connected with the development and consolidation of work practices through the "Direct Execution Method."

In an announcement to INA, Mr. Ramadhan added, "This experiment, which is going to be deepened with the aim of achieving a comprehensive development, had scored positive results in the process of carrying out housing and reconstruction sector's projects which have prominent effects on development projects and programmes."

The Minister pointed out that 53 percent of the Ministry's projects are now executed through the Direct Execution Method. This represents a very high rate we take into account the short period of applying this sort of execution in addition to the difficulties faced during the application period.

He said that the percentage of applying this method in road projects reached 93 percent and in buildings projects reached 61 percent which used to be executed through contracts.

The RCC Member and Minister of Housing and Reconstruction referred to the projects executed by the State Organisation of Housing and the State Company of Water Sewage Projects' Contracts saying that numerous measures and treatments are adopted to apply the advanced technological means in the Direct Execution Method. Twenty-two percent of the Organisation's projects were executed through this method whereas 34 percent of the Company's projects were executed through the same method during the first half of the current year.

The Minister added that the Organisation will start, during the second half of the current year, constructing 9.872 residential apartments in addition to the construction of projects to 21.133 residential units distributed on the whole parts of the country with a total cost of ID. 233 million.

He pointed out that the most important projects, which will be executed in the near future, are 2300 residential units in the location No. 10, in Salhiyah Area and Baghdad, 1000 residential units in Ath-Thawra City, 1000 residential units in Basrah and Missan governorates and 800 units in Najaf.

Regarding road and bridge projects, the execution of 29 new roads will be completed during the second half of the current year costing ID. 152.835.000 with a total length of 758 KM such as the new high way line (second stage), Yesri-Jamana-Beyouri Road and Nassiriyah-Islah Sella-Fajir-Sumawa Road.

The Minister added that the State Organisation of Buildings will execute 37 projects with a total cost of ID. 107.880.000 whereas the State Company of Water and Sewage Contracts' Projects will execute 5 projects costing ID. 76.700.000 like Ath-Thawra City Sewage Project, Kerbala Sewage and the Main Sewage of North Baghdad.

The Minister also reviewed all legislations and steps which flourished the processes of the Direct Execution Method and implementing the tasks of the Ministry such as the issuance of the Law of the State Company of Social Buildings Projects' Contracts which had started executing a number of projects despite its new foundation.

At conclusion, the Minister referred to the measures taken to facilitate and expand loans to the Real Estate Bank and it is now intended to issue new legislation to grant peasants loans.

CSO: 4820

## PLANS ANNOUNCED FOR PETRO-CHEMICALS COMPLEX

Baghdad BAGHDAD OBSERVER in English 11 Jul 79 p 2

[Text] Petro-chemical industries are considered as one of the most developed industries in the world. The products are alternatives to the traditional natural materials such as iron, timber glass, jute and aluminum which have limited sources in the universe.

However, petro-chemical products contribute in obtaining new materials that are locally produced and are used in different industries, thus, save the foreign currencies that are needed for building an industrial base as well as bolstering the national economy.

In fact, Iraq being an oil producing country, has all the prerequisites for building such industries and to find markets to buy the produced petro-chemicals.

Iraq is now building its petro-chemical industries through using modern methods and the availability of the natural gas, which is a necessary source for building such industries.

### Technical Features

The Complex produces 150 thousand tons of different petro-chemical materials and consumes about one million tons of natural gas which used to be burnt formerly in addition to consuming 100 thousand tons of salts produced in Fao.

### Units of the Complex

The Complex consists of the following units:

--Ethylene Unit--This receives one million ton of natural gas from the National Oil Company in Basrah and produces 170 thousand tons of ethylene annually, in addition to 270 thousand tons of liquified gas which is pumped to the liquid Gas Complex in Zubair Field and 43 thousand tons annually of fuel gas which is used as fuel by the Complex itself.

--Chlorine Unit--This Unit receives 100 thousand tons of salts and 43 thousand tons of chlorine gas annually from solid sodium chloride, 10 thousand tons of liquid sodium chloride in addition to the production of 1200 tons annually of the gas of hydrogen.

--Plastic Granules Unit--This Unit uses 43 thousand tons annually of chlorine gas and 32 thousand tons of ethylene gas for producing liquid plastics which are used in the following industries:

1. (8000) tons annually for manufacturing plastic sheets.
2. (40) thousand tons for manufacturing plastic pipes, cables and bars.
3. (12) thousand tons annually of a third for manufacturing shoes, furnitures and industrial fibres.

There is also a Unit for producing poly-ethylene of low density. It consumes annually 72 thousand tons of ethylene gas. However, five types of poly-ethylene of low density are produced in granules at a capacity of 60 thousand tons and are used for the following purposes:

1. Production of 33,100 tons annually, of the first type, for manufacturing films and sheets.
2. Production of 10,600 tons annually, of a second type, for producing films and sheets of special specifications.
3. Production of 53 thousand tons annually, of a type, for manufacturing tapes and wires.
4. Production of 9,000 tons annually, of a fourth type, for manufacturing different types of vessels.
5. Production of 12 thousand tons, of a fifth type, for manufacturing pipes and cables.

However, another unit for high density poly-ethylene consumes 32 thousand tons of gases for producing high density poly-ethylene in the form of granules which is used for manufacturing bottles, vessels and bags.

In an interview held with the Director of the Petro-Chemical Project, Engineer Mu'en Habib Othman, who explained that in addition to the above-mentioned units, there are also service units which are needed by the project and include the following:

--A unit for filtering and pumping 360 cubic meter of water per hour from Shatt el-Arab, for the purposes of operation and maintenance.

--Three high pressured boilers for producing 4 tons of steam per hour.

--A unit for generating electricity--in fact the Complex is supplied with electricity from the National Network in Basrah. The Complex has also been provided with 4 turbines for generating electricity in case of any fault that may take place in the National Power Station.

--Technical Services Unit--Made up of a number of labs that are provided with most up-to-date equipments which deal with carrying out different chemical and physical tests for controlling the specifications of the minerals used and the specifications and quality of production.

Also, there are applied labs in which the final patterns are produced and the necessary tests are carried out on them before they reach the consumer.

The Director of the project said that the total cost of the Project is ID. 350 million. "The Complex employs 4,600 workers. It has trained 100 engineers and cadres of different specifications in addition to holding 6 months training course for 90 middle cadres who are graduates from the industrial high schools at the Training Centre of the Complex as well as sending a number of the employees abroad for further training.

Actually, the Complex needs 200 employees for its operation.

The experimental operation will begin on the 1st of January, 1980. It is expected that Iraq will consume 70 percent of the production and the surplus will be exported to the Arab Gulf countries.

The Director concluded saying that comparatively the Complex is very developed and sophisticated, thus, it needs high technical engineers and workers for its operation.

CSO: 4820

LAND RECLAMATION PROJECTS INCLUDE IRRIGATION, DESALINATION WORKS

Baghdad BAGHDAD OBSERVER in English 10 Jul 79 p 2

[Excerpts] In the old days, Iraq was one of the most fertile agricultural lands, but the recurrence of floods leads to the salinity of these fertile lands. Subsequently, the drop in agricultural production has necessitated in taking reasonable measures for treating these lands. However, as a first step, an organisation of Land Reclamation was founded.

One of the major projects is the "Suwairah Land Reclamation Project."

The project is situated in the District of Suwairah in Wassit Governorate, South of Iraq. The soil of this area is of sedimentary type but has a high rate of salinity. The granted total of the area is 160 thousand donums.

However, the Project will be implemented in four states:

First Stage

An area of 5,600 donums was reclaimed in mid 1975 and was provided with a pumping station with a capacity of 4.5 cubic meter per second for irrigating these lands. These lands are affiliated to the State Farms Administration.

Second Stage

This stage covers 35 thousand donums. These areas have been provided with water through two main canals. A pump station provides these canals with 3 cubic meter of water per second but now another new pumping station of 9 cubic capacity is under construction. However, this stage is implemented through the Direct Execution Method by the State Establishment of Rafidain Valley. The civil works of this stage was completed by Mid June, 1979.

Third Stage

The third stage covers the reclamation of an area of 63 thousand donums. In fact, recently the implementation of the reclamation works were started through the Direct Method.

#### Fourth Stage

The implementation of reclaiming an area of 55 thousand donums is supposed to start late this year through the Direct Method. However, the third and fourth stage will be irrigated by a main stream. (25) cubic meters second of water will be pumped to the stream.

#### Reclamation Works

Through the following three basic stages, reclamation works are carried out:

1. Designs and studies--This stage studies carried out on soil such as survey, classification of lands besides topographic surveys.
2. Implementation of reclamation--Implementation is carried out according to designs already prepared.

However, the following main activities are carried out:

- A network of sewages are constructed through using plastic pipes.
- A network of drainages are also constructed which ends with a main stream.
- Construction of an irrigation network starting with a main canal and ending with field sub-canal.
- Levelling of the lands according to the designs.
- Construction of irrigation and drainage control installations.
- Establishing modern pumping stations for providing the necessary quantities of water for farming.

#### Drainage and Farming

This stage is considered the final for reclamation. It covers soil tests to find the rate of salinity and fertility after which farming is carried out.

CSO: 4820

## BRIEFS

SPANISH COMMUNIST'S VISIT--Comrade Santiago Carrillo, Secretary General of the Spanish Communist Party, and the accompanying delegation yesterday visited Popular Army Training School, where he was briefed on training methods. The delegation thereafter attended a documentary film show on the activities of the Popular Army in urban combats and the participation of Iraqi women--fighters side by side with men against enemies. Comrade Carrillo then wrote down a note in the Visitors Book in which he appreciated supervisors of the school and expressed confidence in the ultimate triumph of the Arab people over the Zionist Entity. The delegation was presented at the end of the visit with souvenirs representing the emblem of the Popular Army. [Text] [Baghdad BAGHDAD OBSERVER in English 6 Jul 79 p 4]

YUGOSLAV-IRAQI ACCORD--Baghdad, 3 Jul 79--The meetings of the joint Yugoslav-Iraqi committees for economic cooperation concluded in Belgrad with the signing of the minutes of the committee meetings. Signing for the Iraqi delegation was 'Adnan Husayn, member of the RCC and minister of Planning. Signing on behalf of the Yugoslavs was Mr Andrej Marinc, Vice President of the Federal Executive Council. [Text] [Baghdad AL-JUMHURIYAH in Arabic 3 Jul 79 p 1]

CSO: 4802

## TRAINING OF ARMS MAINTENANCE CORPS DETAILED

Amman AL-AQSA in Arabic 18 Jun 79 pp 26-28

[Article: "Royal Arms Maintenance School"]

[Text] One of the most important considerations of modern armies at all times is not only to introduce advanced equipment and arms for use in military action, but also to preserve and maintain the weapons they have under efficient operation and high capability in various circumstances and conditions.

The Jordanian armed services have borne this fact in mind from the beginning, and first of all worked to train technical cadres capable of achieving the desired objective.

The Royal Arms Maintenance School is the main source of supply to the armed forces of a trained technical apparatus to maintain and repair the various machinery, equipment and arms in use.

In order to give more information about the role of the Royal Arms Maintenance School in achieving the overall goal, AL-AQSA held the following conversation with Col Eng 'Umr Kurayshan, commandant of the school.

### Functions of the School

With regard to functions, Colonel Kurayshan said that ever since the school was founded, many functions have been designated for the school, among the most important of which are the technical training of officers, who were engineers and joined the service, to acquaint them with the equipment, machines and arms in use, as well as the comprehensive technical training of members of the Arms Maintenance Directorate employed in all fields for phases of specialization and promotion.

In order to train the necessary technical cadres, the school receives students from both the preparatory level, after 4 years of secondary

school, and from the fifth year of secondary school to give them military training, qualify them to operate the weapons in use in the armed services and implant the soldiers' spirit of discipline in them.

The fifth year of secondary school students who join the ranks of the armed services and choose to become technical experts enlist with the rank of corporal and receive training for a period of 2 years. During the first year, the focus of instruction is on the basic sciences, mechanical engineering, English, mathematics, physics, industrial design and technical proficiency to bring their academic level up to the equivalent of the second year of a university. In the second year, according to their results, they specialize in one of the following professions: electronic instruments and equipment, light and heavy machinery, and various weapons and precision instruments. The top students rise to the rank of sergeant. They are awarded a diploma recognized by the Ministry of Education as the equivalent of 2 years of professional training.

Preparatory students are given 15 months of continuous study to raise their academic level to the state secondary school level in English, physics and modern mathematics as a basis for training them in the fields of electricity and electronics, mechanics, various weapons and precision instruments, machine metals, central heating, air-conditioning, refrigeration, electrical systems and power generation. There are also other fields for those who so desire in electrical and oxygen welding, the art of smithing, carpentry, painting and water systems.

#### Directors and Teaching Staff

With regard to the quality of the directors and teaching staff, Colonel Kurayshan added that the directors are part of the school command, and the teaching staff is part of the wings and divisions of officer engineers who have specialized in electricity and mechanics. They are given practical training in units both in the field and at the base. Academically and technically qualified trainers help them, in addition to university instructors who have specialized in mathematics, physics and English and who are on contract through cooperation with the Ministry of Education.

In addition, the school acts in excellent, close cooperation with academic institutes in the kingdom, such as the Polytechnical Institute and industrial schools belonging to the Ministry of Education, as well as with the Royal Academy of Science and the University of Jordan.

#### Wings and Divisions of the School

Concerning the school's wings and divisions which were created to achieve the overall objective and supply the armed forces with technical cadres, Colonel Eng Kurayshan said that the school now has six wings, including numerous divisions. These wings are as follows:

1. Technical students wing. Its function is to give the students military training which includes weapons and field expertise in addition to courses to promote them to the grades of private first class and corporal.
2. Miscellaneous Professions Wing. It includes the technical foundation division of machine metals, carpentry, electrical and oxygen welding, central heating, water systems, air-conditioning and refrigeration.
3. Motorized Wing. It includes a motor division, an armored motor division, a motorized rescue division and engineering equipment.
4. Electrical Wing. It includes the division of electrical instrumentation and armored electronic instrumentation and a division of electronics and guided weaponry.
5. Arms and Precision Instruments Wing. It includes the light weaponry division, the gun mechanics division and the precision instruments division.
6. Special Courses Wing. Technical experts are trained here the first year, and courses are held in electronically-guided weaponry, English and courses for trainers and inspectors.

#### Views and Aspirations

Our goal and duty is to develop the armed forces. At present the command has a plan for the school to train and prepare technicians in the maintenance and repair of equipment and instruments used by the Medical Services Directorate. We hope the school will continue to carry out its mission both fully and well, that it will continue to adapt in developing our armed forces in the various fields, and that it will perform any duty entrusted to it in the future. This can come about only through the continued support of the school by officials and the good reputation it has in the Jordanian community. Proof of this is the great number who flock to the school when we announce that new courses are going to be held and the large number of our Arab brothers who come from various Arab countries to study.

During a tour of the wings and divisions, AL-AQSA met with a number of students. It also met with some of our Arab brothers who are currently studying at the school in special courses.

Second Lieutenant Joseph 'Aziz of Lebanon told AL-AQSA, "A few days ago we came to this school to benefit from its expertise in certain fields and specializations. My colleagues of the Lebanese delegation and I were aware of the school's excellent, superior reputation. Both the instructors and the school are of high quality. We have found no difficulties because of the new methods of explanation. Also, the quality of

services is excellent. The people here have spared no effort to fill our requests, and we take this occasion to thank the Jordanian armed forces for the friendly reception given us and the services they have offered us."

Private 'Abdullah Nasir 'Abdullah from Kuwait told AL-AQSA, "Approximately 1 year ago we arrived in a large group to study the various fields of specialization here. Each of us has attended more than one session. The standard of teaching is high and the mutual relations are excellent. We have learned a great deal and will apply this learning when we return home very soon. We thank the Jordanian armed forces on this occasion for excellent reception and welcome given us during our stay in our second home country, Jordan. We also thank our colleagues at the school, both the command and the teaching staff who have done everything possible for us."

Corporal Husayn 'Abdullah Salam, technical expert, said, "I joined the armed services because of my desire to serve in them. The maintenance school prepared the way for me through my enrollment in the course for technical experts. It has given us a good opportunity to learn one of the technical professions, in addition to the rank and good pay which amounts to about 58 dinars while we are in the course, besides other benefits given us such as study abroad for the top students."

Maslah 'Abd al-Halim Maslah, student in the course on electronics and antiaircraft weaponry said, "I enrolled in the school in 1977 through the Ministry of Education. Many of my colleagues advised me to do that after I finished the preparatory level. The school has given us a good opportunity to learn a useful profession, in addition to good pay which is 52 dinars per month during the course, plus other benefits. Our academic level is now equivalent to the state secondary school diploma."

This is some of what we have succeeded in learning about what the Royal Arms Maintenance School is doing, and AL-AQSA wishes it greater progress and development in order to serve our Jordanian armed forces under their commander, His Majesty King Hussein.

7811

CSO: 4802

## BEDOUIN TRIBAL JUSTICE APPLIED

Amman AL-AQSA in Arabic 16 Jun 79 p 21

[Article by Col Jamal al-Khurayshih: "Bedouin Justice"]

[Text] The Bedouin have had their own system of justice by long tradition. Those enacting the Bedouin law established special solutions for disputes among tribal members, and transgressions are regarded as crimes. Despite the development of the system of justice, the Bedouin have retained their judicial structures derived from tribal customs and traditions which exist side by side with the legal system. The Bedouin law was issued in Jordan in 1926 and was replaced by the law of 1936. This law has remained in effect to the present day. This law provided for the creation of Bedouin courts which apply tribal customs and traditions, under the supervision of provincial governors and administrative officers, the director of Security or his representative and usually the director of the Desert Police.

### 1. Bedouin Courts

- a. The courts consist of either one judge or three, with the stipulation that the court judge be a Bedouin shaykh and that this shaykh be familiar with the roots and customs of the Bedouin.
- b. It is stipulated that the two opposing parties must agree on this judge.

### 2. Case Before Bedouin Courts

Immediate presumption, and this is usually the case, that the two parties will agree between themselves on a judge, without the Desert Police director's knowledge. They resort to one of the following methods in case one of the litigants does not agree.

- a. He puts forward some livestock or the equivalent as a gesture to demand his rights of the opposing party. Neither a purebred horse nor clothing may be put forward in this case.

b. The complaint is submitted to the Desert Police director. In this case an investigation of the matter is made, and then the case is turned over to a judge once the two parties agree on one.

c. The administrative officers and the director of Public Security have the right to transfer to the Bedouins any case they deem appropriate.

### 3. Case Fees

The Bedouin law stipulates that the judges receive fees called "rizgah," on condition that they not exceed the value of the claim.

### 4. Arrest in a Case

The law does not give the judge the power to arrest the guilty party. It is given rather to the administrative officers and the Desert Police director.

### 5. Compromise in a Case

A compromise is made in important cases such as murder and ravishing the land in the well-known manner and formulations of Roman law. These measures are:

a. Truce payment. It is a truce between two parties when a crime is committed. There are two kinds of truce payments. One is for the granting of a respite of 3 days. During this period the perpetrator of the crime leaves the area. No hostile act is permitted during this period. Guarantors are designated. During this period a truce payment is taken, and through it a compromise is made. The truce payment is obligatory. In case there is no proof of the crime, a truce payment is taken and it remains in abeyance until the crime is proven.

### 6. Compromise

When there is a compromise those concerned with the crime take a pelt tent and erect it near the house of the victim of the crime secretly, very early in the morning. Afterwards the notables come and hold their discussion to solve the problem and make a compromise. The carrying out of the sentence is left to the guarantors who are among those principally involved.

### 7. Punishment

The punishments imposed are blood money, property and camels. What is allowed for murder is 50 she-camels, a horse, a rifle, and a female riding camel. If the killing was by accident, the blood money is 333.3 dinars in accordance with Islamic Sharia law.

## BRIEFS

PARATROOPER GRADUATION--The 33rd class of Special Forces paratroopers graduated last Sunday morning. Those who participated in the course received training which contributed toward raising the level of their physical capabilities, as the graduates made parachute jumps from various altitudes. Several members of the Special Forces made free-fall jumps from high altitudes, and a number of scientific service members participated in the course. At the end of the ceremony the commander of the Special Forces gave out class wings and diplomas to the graduates. A number of officers, noncommissioned officers and members of the Special Forces attended the ceremony. [Text] [Amman AL-AQSA in Arabic 16 Jun 79 p 7] 7811

CSO: 4802

## MAURITANIA

### BRIEFS

ABU DHABI LOAN--The Abu Dhabi Fund for Arab Economic Development has agreed to lend Mauritania Dirhams 40 million (\$10.5 million), repayable over 20 years with five years' grace at 3.5 per cent interest, to help finance a road-building project, the official UAE news agency reports. Other sources of financing are the Saudi Fund and the Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development. [Text] [Paris AL-NAHAR ARAB REPORT & MEMO in English 16 Jul 79 p 13]

KUWAITI LOAN--The Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development last week announced loans totalling Kuwaiti Dinars 21.8 million (\$79.1 million) to Mauritania, Thailand and Vietnam to help finance development projects. Mauritania will get KD 12.9 million (\$46.8 million), repayable over 25 years with a five-year grace period, at 3 per cent interest. [Excerpts] [Paris AL-NAHAR ARAB REPORT & MEMO in English 16 Jul 79 p 13]

CSO: 4420

## CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY GROWTH REPORTED

Paris AL-NAHAR ARAB REPORT & MEMO in English 16 Jul 79 pp 6, 7

[Text]

The growth of construction activity in Morocco in recent years has provided more than sufficient inducement for the construction materials industry to grow. The 1978-80 Interim Moroccan Plan estimates the turnover in the construction materials industry in 1977 at 1.39 billion Dirhams (\$355 million) and is expected to reach MD 1.59 billion (\$407 million) by 1980 at constant 1978 prices, an average annual rate of growth of 7 per cent.

The current plan earmarks investments of MD 7 billion (\$1.79 billion) for the housing sector as a whole and MD 800 million (\$205 million) for the expansion of existing plants in a three-year period. With the flurry of huge projects since 1974 demand for cement grew beyond local industry capacity and prompted resort to imports. Under the current plan, however, production is expected to grow at faster rate than public projects, which would diminish the need for imports.

In 1978 cement production in Morocco reached 3 million tonnes. This year, output is expected to rise to 4.51 million tonnes compared with only 1.54 million tonnes in 1972. Morocco's cement output is produced by seven plants listed below by location and capacity.

Plant	Location	Capacity
Ciments Lafarge	Casablanca	960,000
Cimenterie d'Agadir	Agadir	570,000
Cementos de Tanger	Tangiers	70,000
Cementos Marroquies	Tetouan	150,000
ASMAR	Marrakesh	500,000
Cimenterie de l'Orient	Oudjda	1,500,000
CADEM	Fez	760,000
<b>Total</b>		<b>4,510,000</b>

Cement production is targeted to increase rapidly over the next few years as expansion works on existing plants are completed. The Agadir Plant capacity will be raised to 1 million tonnes in 1982 at a total investment cost of MD 230 million (\$58.8 million). The Tangir plant capacity will be raised this year by more than threefold to reach 240,000 tonnes. The Totouan plant capacity will also be increased to 260,000 tonnes in the next three years.

Additional plants are also in the pipeline. ASMENT will go on stream this year comprising the first phase of a 600,000 - tonne plant due for completion by 1982. ASMENT's first phase will provide 360,000 tonnes. A giant 1.5 million-tonne factory, Casablanca II, will go on stream by 1982 and will cost MD 730 million (\$194 million). Finally,

CADEM will set up a plant at Fqih Bin Salah (in the Tadla area) with an initial capacity of 500,000 tonnes. By the end of the current year, Morocco's cement capacity is targeted at 5.07 million tonnes. By 1982 annual capacity should reach 7.61 million tonnes.

Conservative forecasts prepared by Morocco's Banque Nationale du Développement Economique (BNDE) indicate that local consumption of cement will grow steadily from 4.49 million tonnes this year to 5.03 million next year, 5.64 million tonnes in 1981, 6.31 million tonnes in 1982 and 7.07 million tonnes by 1983. With growing cement production local demand will be met by 1980 and surplus capacity will be enjoyed onwards.

Morocco's present suppliers of cement are Spain, favoured for its good quality cement and low transport costs, given Spain's proximity, and Poland, with highly competitive prices.

Another survey of the brick industry carried by BNDE shows that the Moroccan traditional, semi-industrial and modern brick plants produce a total capacity of 751,450 tonnes a year. The figures cited for 1977 indicate that the existing plant capacities are 70 to 92 per cent utilised. The percentage ranges with the plant's modernity and automation. Some 43 projects, including expansions and new plants, have been initiated and shall bring total brick production capacity to 2.01 million tonnes by early 1981. That would leave 0.71 million tonnes for export.

## BRIEFS

FIRST OIL STRIKE--Sudan has announced its first oil strike. A radio and television announcement in Khartoum last week said Chevron, a subsidiary of Socal, which has been prospecting since 1975, was already producing from the Abu Jabra well in Western Sudan at a rate of 500 b/d. A major discovery claimed several months ago turned out a scanty show of high grade oil from Chevron's second well in the area, and since then a low profile has been maintained on all prospecting operations in Sudan. Chevron's sixth well, Abu Jabra has been productive since last February. Early drillings produced only small amounts of oil which had to be flooded out. The present flow of 40° API crude--a high quality--which is expected to rise to 1,000 b/d, is produced from a 9,000-foot hole. Very little can be said about Sudan's future as an oil producer at present, before the amount of oil in the ground can be determined. [Text] [Paris AL-NAHAR ARAB REPORT & MEMO in English 23 Jul 79 p 12]

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